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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Y. SHIBATA, et al
Serial No.: 10/020,977
Filed: December 19, 2001
For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR DETECTING DEFECTS
Group: 2877
Examiner: G. Stock, Jr.

AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

July 13, 2004

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated March 26, 2004, the following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application, as listed below and as set forth on the following pages:

Amendment of the Specification;

Amendment of the Claims;

Amendment of the Abstract; and

Remarks are included following the amendments.